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information report

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WORY China/Hong Kong

CONFIDENTIAL

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MECT

Shipping Costs of Coal, Kailan Mines to Canton

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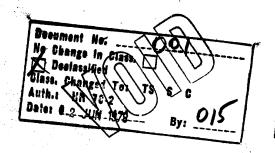
SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO.

25X1X

Shipping one ton of coal from the Kailan mines to Hong Kong costs Hong Kong (HK) \$60. The Canton Communist Government pays HK \$40 more to ship one ton from Hong Kong to Canton because bandit elements along the railroad have to be bribed to permit the shipments to go through.

25X1A Comment. The Hong Kong Standard for 8 December 1949 reported that the Hong Kong Department of Commerce and Industry had given special permission for about 8,600 tons of coal from North China to be unloaded in Hong Kong and shipped to Canton. The shipments have been going on during the past fortnight and are said to have averted a power failure in Canton.

25X1X Comment. It is worth noting that, less than two months after the occupation of Canton, Communist authorities find it necessary to bribe bandit elements. However, it does not necessarily mean that the new regime has no other way to cope with the bandit groups. Evidently the Communists consider it worthwhile for the time being to make these payments in order to prevent a power and water failure in Canton.



This document is hereby regraded to CONFIDENTIAL in accordance with the letter of 33 October 1978 from the Director of Central Intelligence to the Archivist of the United States.

Next Review Date: 2008

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